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Atty Dkt. No.  
33093M006

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Norio MAEDA et al.

Serial No.: 09/936,618

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Filed : September 17, 2001

Examiner: To Be Assigned

For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DRYING SUBSTRATE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees, please amend this application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Applicants have attached to this Amendment documents entitled "Marked-up Copy of the Previous Claims" and "Amended Claims". Please replace present claims 3, 4, 6-9, 12, 13, and 15-22 in this application with amended claims 3, 4, 6-9, 12, 13, and 15-22 shown in the document entitled "Amended Claims".

**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment are respectfully requested prior to or concurrent with calculation of the filing fees. This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to remove all multiple dependencies from the claims.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

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